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FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 AUGUST 1983

Lebanon

Four IDF soldiers were wounded in a bomb explosion near 'Ammiq in the Al-Biqa' valley, IDF Radio announced on 23 August citing the IDF spokesman. Meanwhile, sniper fire continued in the Ash-Shuf region despite an earlier "Syrian-socialist" decision to stop shelling areas in and around Beirut, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. More than 20 people were killed or injured in the shelling, the radio said, and the commander of the Italian contingent in Beirut narrowly escaped death when a shell exploded near his vehicle. The IDF intervened to silence Druze artillery near Bhamdun after shells fell near an Israeli position, Jerusalem radio noted. The Lebanese Army Command subsequently denied Druze claims that the Army participated alongside the Phalangists in the artillery exchanges by shelling Druze residential areas from the neighborhood of Beirut airport, Beirut radio reported. Although the Progressive Socialist Party threatened to shell the airport in retaliation, the Army Command affirmed that it has no artillery positions in that locality.

Correction

The following correction pertains to the 22 August Middle East & South Asia Review, subheading "Lebanon:"— Page 1, first paragraph, line eight should read:— . . . the joint Israeli-Lebanese agreement should be torn up . . . (deleting "not")

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee met in Tunis on 21-22 August under its chairman, Yasir 'Arafat, following his tour of the PDRY, YAR, Kuwait, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia, north Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio reported. The radio said discussions would cover the situation of Palestinians in Lebanon and the West Bank and the results of current contacts to heal the rift with Syria and within Fatah.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Israeli Energy and Infrastructure Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i began a 3-day official visit to Egypt where he will meet with government leaders, intellectuals, and businessmen, according to an Israeli Energy Ministry announcement carried by ITIM. MENA subsequently reported Moda'i's arrival in Cairo. Moda'i is the first Israeli minister invited to Egypt since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

Libya

African youths must lead the masses in every African country in "a sweeping revolution" to liberate the continent because revolution is "the only way to destroy" imperialism and Zionism, Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud told participants at the second African youth festival in Tripoli in a speech broadcast by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio.

The Libyan Armed Forces held major maneuvers using live ammunition and proved their high combat ability, according to a brief Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio report. The report did not give the location of the maneuvers.

Iran

Iran will not allow any country allied with the United States to strengthen the U.S. military presence in the region under the pretext of Gulf security, Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi stated in response to recent remarks by the Omani foreign minister on the Iranian "threat" to the Gulf, Tehran radio reported. Oman's request for a $2 billion grant from the other countries in the region to strengthen defenses at the Strait of Hormuz actually is designed to safeguard U.S. interests, the official said.

The Islamic Revolution prosecutor general warned pilgrims in an announcement broadcast by the radio against taking currency or narcotics to Mecca because the "region's reactionaries" are looking for a chance "to cast aspersions" on or discredit the pilgrims.

Pakistan

More than 50,000 demonstrators rioted in Khairpur as the civil disobedience campaign against President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's government continued throughout the country, AFP reported. An editorial in the Karachi paper *Nawa-e Waqt* stated that if the government expects the people to reject the extremists who have initiated the campaign of destruction, arson, and confrontation, it should be prepared to show some regard for the peoples' desire for democracy and elections.

Afghanistan

Former King Mohammad Zaher Shah announced in Rome where he lives in exile that he wants to take part in the national resistance movement but that he is not working to restore the monarchy, ANSA reported. The statement followed his meeting with visiting Afghan rebel leaders who gave the king a mandate to make political contacts at the international level, including the UN-led negotiations in Geneva, ANSA added. Meanwhile, rebel forces on 19 August shot down two Soviet helicopter gunships southeast of Kabul, SPA reported citing the AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Reportage on Resistance Leaders' Meeting in Rome

Government in Exile 'Possibility'

LD192104 Riyadh SPA in English 1904 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Excerpt] Islamabad, aug 19, SPA — Leaders of three moderate Afghan mujahideen groups based in the Pakistani city of Peshawar met in Rome this week-end with the aim of creating a broad-based unity of Afghans, sources of "Islamic Unity of Afghan Mujahideen (Moderates)" told newsmen here Friday.

Sources said a conference of Afghan mujahideen, tribal chiefs, elders and religious scolars is expected to be held outside Afghanistan, most probably in Europe, by the end of this year to hammer out the desired "United Islamic Front of Afghans."

Sources did not rule out the possibility of setting up an Afghan government in exile.

Former King Gets Backing

AU221947 Rome ANSA in English 1941 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] (ANSA) — Rome, August 22 — The former King of Afghanistan Mohammad Zaher Shah has received from moderate resistance leaders who met here last week a mandate to make political contacts at an international level with a view to achieving a free, independent and nonaligned Afghanistan, he said.

In a communique released here today, the former sovereign, who has been living in exile in Rome for around ten years, said that he wanted to take a direct part in the Afghan national resistance but that he was not working for any restoration of the monarchy.

He said his goal was a free, independent nonaligned Afghanistan which was a friend to all nations and which was in a position to pursue its own political, social and economic development in accordance with Islamic principles.

In the Rome meeting here, the former sovereign conferred with representatives of the three chief Afghani guerrilla movements united in the "Mujahedin Front." They appealed to all resistance forces fighting in Afghanistan to create a united front to be recognized at an international level.

Sources close to Zaher Shah said that the former king had decided to resume the political struggle, above all to give an official voice to the Afghan resistance which has so far been excluded from U.N.-led negotiations on Afghanistan underway in Geneva.

The same sources claimed that the former monarch could count on the support of a majority of the people.

However, a representative of radical Islamic guerrillas in Afghanistan has threatened the former king with death if he ever stepped foot in the country again and has sharply criticized any return of Zaher Shah to politics.

Kabul New Times on Success of 'Mopping-up Operations'

LD230636 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Kabul, August 22, BAKHTAR — The success of the mopping up operations by the security forces of the DRA in Khak-e-Jabar town in Kabul province as a result which of huge stockpiles of American, Chinese, Egyptian and British weapons, ammunition and explosives were seized is yet another stunning defeat for the counterrevolution and their imperialist and hegemonist patrons, writes *Kabul New Times*.

The success of these operations the newspaper emphasises, could not have been possible but for the active and full-fledged cooperation of the local population with the government in its drive to eliminate the renmants of counter-revolution.

It is to be seen today all over the country and it means in simple terms that the counter-revolution although it continues to receive massive financial and military assistance from the imperialsits especially the USA for carrying out subversion and homicide in the DRA, stands totally alienated and isolated from the masses in all regions of the country. There is no illusion whatesover in the people's minds now that regardless of their pretensions for so-called defence of Islam, what the counterrevolutionaries are doing is only destruction and devastation of the land of Afghans in the interests of the American imperialists and their motley hued reactionary collaborators.

'Counterrevolutionaries Crushed' in Faryab Province

LD211955 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] A group of counterrevolutionary elements and its leader Pahlawan Tordeli, who were disrupting the peace of the toiling people of Shirin Tagab District, Faryab Province, were recently crushed by the army unit of that district. A quantity of assorted weapons was captured from them.

15 Former Rebels Come Over to Government Side

LD2112219 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] About 15 inhabitants of Baharak District, Badakhshan Province, who had joined the ranks of the enemies of the homeland and revolution as a result of the slanderous propaganda of the enemies, realized the truth of the April Revolution and came over to the side of their people and revolutionary government the day before yesterday. A spokesman of the Bakakhshan Province said that 10 Kalashnikovs, 5 automatic rifles, 1 303-rifle, 1 mortar, and a large quantity of assorted ammunition were seized from them. They promised to defend firmly the aspirations of the April Revolution and annihilate its enemies.

Ershad Criticizes India's Border Fence Proposal

BK230646 Dhaka BSS in English 0636 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 23, (BSS) — Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, president of the Bangladesh Council of Ministers, has said that the Indian proposal to raise barbed wire fencing along its border with Bangladesh amounts to denouncing Bangladesh in the world.

He told visiting Indian journalists that Bangladesh would not like the idea of putting up a barbed wire fence along the Indo-Bangladesh border asserting that no Bangladesh nationals were crossing the border to the Indian side.

The Bangladesh leader said that the government and people of his country were concerned about the proposal which looked like denouncing Bangladesh in the international community.

Reportage on Joint Economic Panel Meeting With India

BK201159 Dhaka BSS in English 1132 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 20 BSS — The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Economic Commission (JEC) in its inaugural session of the two-day meeting here today set up four working groups to submit recommendations for cooperation in the fields of trade and commerce, industries, science and technology and transport and communications.

The working groups are likely to submit their reports tomorrow.

The Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr A.R. Shamsud Doha, and Indian external affairs minister, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao, are leading the delegations of their respective countries.

After the hour-long meeting, a Foreign Office spokesman said that in today's session, the two sides reviewed the progress made on the decisions taken at the first meeting of the JEC set up in October last year. The also generally discussed ways and means of increasing the areas of mutually beneficial cooperation. The current Indo-Bangladesh JEC meeting is second in the series. The first meeting was held in New Delhi in November last.

Ershad Comments Noted

BK210803 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] The chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, Lieutenant General Ershad, says India and his country want to solve bilateral issues amicably. He was talking to Indian newsmen in Dhaka. Referring to his talks with the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, he said Mr Rao's visit will help remove irritants in mutual relations. He denied large-scale infiltration of Bangladesh nationals in India, barring stray cases.

The All-India Radio Dhaka correspondent, (Sugrato Ghosh), reports that Lt Gen Ershad expressed satisfaction over the meeting of the joint economic commission currently in session. In reply to a question, he said Sri Lanka did not approach Bangladesh for military help.

Joint Statement Cited

BK211329 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1100 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] The second session of the Bangladesh-India Joint Economic Commission ended in Dhaka today. Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha led the Bangladesh delegation at the talks while the Indian delegation was led by the external affairs minister of that country, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao. The commission met in two preliminary meetings. The concerned officials of the two countries had separate discussions on bilateral cooperation in various spheres.

A joint statement issued later said that both sides described the commission's role as the means to develop the cooperation between the two countries in the economic, commercial, scientific, and technical fields. They emphatically stated that, inspired by the ideal of regional and international cooperation, they are determined to enhance their cooperation in various fields. In this context, the two sides expressed satisfaction over the launching of the integrated program of action under the South Asian cooperation. They held detailed discussions on cooperation in communication and transport.

The commission reviewed the implementation of decisions made at its first session held last November in New Delhi and expressed satisfaction over the progress in various sectors. On the decisions made at the first session on industrial cooperation, the commission decided to expedite measures in the identified projects. The commission emphasized more effective measures by both sides to reduce trade imbalance. The commission agreed to renew the India-Bangladesh trade agreement for a further period of 3 years. The agreement expires on 7 October this year. It was decided to make a trade analysis as soon as possible. The session also discussed the progress in dialogue between the two countries on avoidance of double taxation. The two sides agreed to examine as early as possible the possibility of establishing direct air links between their capitals. The commission approved the recommendation of the standing committee on the immediate functioning of the committees on trade and commerce, industry, and science and technology. The next session of the commission will be held some time during the middle of next year in New Delhi.

Later, the Indian external affairs minister, addressing a news conference, described the outcome of the session as very fruitful. He said the meeting discussed all aspects of bilateral relations. In reply to a question, Rao said that the parliament of his country will approve the 1973 land boundary agreement at an appropriate time and all steps are being taken in this regard. He described his talks with President Assanuddin Chowdhury, Chief Martial Law Administrator Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad and other Bangladesh leaders as very satisfactory.

Rao Remarks Reported

BK211636 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 83

[Text] India and Bangladesh today renewed their determination to accelerate the pace of cooperation in various fields. This has

been said in a joint statement issued at the end of the 2-day meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh joint economic commission in Dhaka. It listed a series of steps to expand such cooperation. All-India Radio's [AIR] Dhaka correspondent Sougata Ghosh reports that, while in several areas the progress was found satisfactory, fields like transport, industrial cooperation and adaption of trade imbalances need further cooperation.

Earlier, the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the Bangladesh foreign minister, Mr Doha, told newsmen that there are immense possibilities of diversifying economic cooperation between the two countries. They expressed confidence that the joint commission would be mutually beneficial and produce positive results.

The joint statement said the two sides have agreed to renew the Indo-Bangladesh trade agreement expiring in October for another 3 years. It is also agreed in principle to extend the protocol on inland water transport and trade also expiring in October.

Addressing a press conference, Mr Rao described the Indo-Bangla relations as excellent. He said the barbed wire fencing will not affect the relations between the two countries.Asked about the need for barbed wire, Mr Rao said this was based on our experience. The external affairs minister said that the two neighboring countries are likely to have resolved issues, but these can be solved in a spirit of good will. Asked about Sri Lanka, Mr Rao said conditions there are returning to normal but rehabilitation of the affected people will take time. Replying to a question about the people of the Indian origin in Sri Lanka forming a government in exile in India, he said it is not correct.

In an exclusive interview with AIR correspondent in New Delhi after his return from Dhaka, Mr Rao said India and Bangladesh are expected to open goods transit facility in the next 3 months. He said the railway officials of the two countries have agreed on the feasibility of the goods transit between West Bengal and Tripura through Bangladesh. He said India has expressed willingness to import a number of items from Bangladesh. Some of these include newsprint and fertiliser. India, Mr Rao said, is ready to enter into a long-term arragement in this regard. On the sharing of waters of common rivers, the external affairs minister said Bangladesh has been told to arrive at an early solution to resolve this long-drawn issue.

Speaking highly of the joint commission, Mr Rao said it will enable both the countries to monitor the progress and give a push to bilateral cooperation. He said, from now on, a conscious effort will be made to implement the stipulated programs within a time-bound frame. Mr Rao said the next meeting of the joint commission will be held in the middle of the next year.

Ershad Set To Visit Washington in Late October

BK171001 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1700 GMT 16 Aug 83

[Text] The chief martial law administator, Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad, is to leave for Washington by the end of October on an official visit at the invitation of President Reagan. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Dhaka today that Gen Ershad will meet President Reagan on 25 October.

Minister Leaves 21 Aug on 10-Day Visit to PRC

BK220223 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The establishment and reorganization minister, Major General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury, left Dhaka yesterday for Beijing on a 10-day good will visit to China. During his stay, he will have talks with Chinese leaders on bilateral matters and regional as wellas international issues of common concern.

Ziaul Haq Speaks to Newsmen on Current Situation

BK231110 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1000 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Excerpts] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said that he has given the nation the future program of the country and it is now the collective responsibility of the nation to see that it is implemented in a peaceful manner.

Talking to newsmen in Karachi this afternoon, he said all sections of society, including politicians, lawyers, students, and others, will have to play their role for this purpose. The president said the affairs of the country cannot be run on the wheels of politics alone. The political parties, he pointed out, are, in fact, a means and they can prove helpful in running the affairs of the country only when they themselves follow correct lines. The solution to the problems rests with the patriotic people of the country.

Violence has been a part of politics in the country, although Pakistan was achieved through peaceful means. In reply to a question about the situation in Sind, he said there should be no cause for worry. The situation is not serious but is regrettable. There are some disruptive elements who are indulging in acts of lawlessness with the guard of the Movement for Restoration of Democracy, but their designs wil' not succeed. He asked: What purpose is being served by indulging in acts such as causing damage to railroad tracks and other public property? Such acts are against the spirit of Islam. Asked if such elements are acting under foreign influence, he said this possibility cannot be ruled out, but such elements cannot succeed in their design as long as there is unity in our line.

Earlier, the president inaugurated a modern hospital built with the financial assistance of the amir of Qatar at Orangi in Karachi.

Radio Pakistan's representative says the president was enthusiastically cheered by thousands of people both on his arrival and departure from the hospital. A huge crowd, including men, women, and children gathered in front of the hospital and on roof tops of nearby houses, greeted him with prolonged applause and roaring slogans of "What is the meaning of Pakistan? There is no god but Allah," and "Long Live President Mohammad Ziaul Haq." The president, upon leaving the hospital, stood up in an open jeep and waved to the people to acknowledge their greetings.

Press Notes Issued on Recent Incidents

BK221552 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the district magistrate in Hyderabad said three people submitted (?themselves) for arrest in Jam Shoro today. When they were taken into custody, the mob present stoned the police and magistrate on duty. The mob also tried to set fire to a branch of a bank and a petrol pump. The police, however, dispersed the mob by using tear gas. Eight people were arrested on the spot in this incident.

A summary military court in Sanghar has sentenced each of three people to prison terms and a fine on charges of beating up a police constable on duty. Another military court in Dadu sentenced each of nine people to 1 year's hard labor and a fine. They have been charged with starting demonstrations, raising anticountry slogans, and damaging government records.

Deaths, Injuries Reported

BK230309 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 23 Aug 83

[Text] A press note issued by the Khairpur district magistrate said that yesterday a violent crowd in Khairpur town attacked several government buildings and set them on fire. They looted a handicraft center and later set it on fire. The police had to use tear gas, cane charge, and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd as a result of which one person was killed and four injured. Fifteen policemen were also injured as a result of stone throwing by the crowd. The press note added that some arrests have been made in this connection. Fourteen vehicles used for various unlawful activities have also been taken into government custody.

Later in the evening, a violent crowd pelted with stones and then attacked with firearms a police post in Ranipur town. The police had to open fire to defend the post, killing 2 people and wounding 10 others. The crowd also attacked two local bank branches and set them on fire. The police arrested many people in this connection and investigations are in progress. The situation in these two areas is under control.

A summary military court in Hyderabad has sentenced three people to 3 year's imprisonment with hard labor and lashes. They were accused of possessing lethal weapons, unlawful intrusion, looting a licensed gun and 13 cartridges, and kidnapping.

AFP Reports on 9th Day of Disobedience Campaign

OW221957 Hong Kong AFP in English 1850 GMT 22 Aug 83

[By Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Islamabad, Aug. 22 (AFP) — Security forces killed at least three people in Ranipur in southern Sind Province after more than 50,000 demonstrators rioted in the Arby village of Khairpur on the ninth day of the campaign of disobedience against the military government, an authoritative source said.

The rioters, led by a local leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) of executed former Prime Minister Ali Bhutto, ransacked and set fire to administrative buildings, a court and a bank.

According to the opposition several dozen people were wounded during clashes with police which lasted several hours.

In the rest of the country, tension rose as arrests continued in the four provincial capitals and in Rawalpindi of members of the eight-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD), which includes the PPP.

In the Baluchistan capital of Quetta police charged a march by about 1,000 demonstrators. A general strike called in the prov

ince for tomorrow was postponed by the MRD to August 27 so that "people will be better prepared."

Pakistani President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, who has cancelled all public engagements for the last week and has been holding a series of meetings with army leaders in Murree north of the capital, is to travel to Karachi tomorrow.

Three towns east of Karachi, Badin, Matli and Mehar were paralysed by a general strike and the army which now occupies some 10 towns in Sind Province broke up opposition rallies at Hyderabad, the province's second city. Clashes with police were reported in six other towns in Sind Province.

Sabotage of of railway lines in recent days has disrupted communications with the north of the country leading to delays of more than 10 hours on main lines linking Karachi to Lahore and Rawalpindi. Frequent bank raids in the province have led to panic withdrawals of money and public services have been interrupted.

More than 100 local councillors have resigned in response to an opposition call and electoral offices in Jacobabad were ransacked and set on fire overnight, reliable sources said.

More than 500 people have been arrested in Sind Province since the start of the anti-government campaign last Sunday, according to the Karachi authorities, but according to the opposition more than 1,000 people have been arrested and more than 30 people have died in armed clashes with the security forces.

Every evening the authorities announce summary sentences handed down by the military courts, condemning arrested opposition figures to jail terms of one year and between ten and 25 lashes.

Nearly 100 people have already been sentenced, according to legal sources in the capital.

Nawa-e Waqt Comments on Political Disturbances

GF221404 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 19 Aug 83 p 3

[Editorial: "People Also Have Hopes and Feelings"]

[Excerpts] The policy of destruction, arson, and confrontation initiated by the MRD is limited to parts of Sind Province, and the way that the government and civil installations, courts, government offices, railroads, and jails are being attacked is not a reflection of democratic politics but of extremism. The repercussions will not be very favorable for the MRD's objectives which are being proclaimed by its leaders in connection with democracy, the Constitution, and elections.

This state of affairs invites speculation to the effect that where such extremism prevails, not only does democracy not flourish but it also endangers the security and sovereignty of the country. There are certain elements in the MRD who talk about the restitution of democracy, but it appears that their aim is to bring about the disintegration of the country.

These circumstances invite patriotic circles to wonder about what our "dear friends will do next." The government authorities obviously expect the people to reject those extremists who are indulging in destruction and arson, but the people also have some expectations. They also hold some opinions regarding democracy, the Constitution, and elections. If the government authorities want the people to reject the extremists, they should have some regard for the patriotic people's expectations, opinions, and sus-hyphenationceptibilities. They should show some encouragement and appreciation for their rejection in conformity with their own schemes and plans. The duration of the tenure of office is not a criterion for popularity.

Talks Held With Soviet Foreign Ministry Delegation

BK221039 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] A two-member Soviet delegation now in Pakistan called on the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, in Islamabad today and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The Soviet delegation's visit is in pursuance of the arrangement for an annual exchange of views before the UN General Assembly session.

The Soviet delegation also held two rounds of talks with senior officials of the Foreign Office. The Soviet delegation is led by the chief of South Asia Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Anatoliy Ivanovich Valkov.

NEPAL

No-Confidence Motion Presented to Panchayat 22 Aug

BK230244 Hong Kong AFP in English 0223 GMT 23 Aug 83

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Excerpt] Katmandu, Aug. 23 (AFP) — A motion for a no confidence vote against the 5-week-old government headed by Kokendra Bahadur Chand has been presented to National Panchayat Chairman Marich Man Singh.

After a check of the validity of the signatures, the motion presented yesterday is expected to be registered in the Panchayat, the nation's unicameral partyless legislature. A vote is to be scheduled for Aug. 31, 10 days from presentation.

The motion was proposed by Dil Bahadur Shrestha, former home minister and an elected member from Morang Sunsari District 390 km (240 miles) southeast of Katmandu, and was seconded by Yadav Singh Rayamajgi from Palpa, 260 km (160 miles) southeast of Katmandu.

The motion, believed to have been supported by 50 elected members, charges the Chand government with creating groupism in the partyless Panchayat and with undermining the Constitution.

The government has been criticised for not keeping promises it made before coming to power, for a controversial proposed purchase of a Boeing 727 for the national airlines, for alleged irregularities in the purchase of 2,400 water pumps, and failure to take action against 46 companies accused of misusing foreign exchange facilities.

Mr. Shrestha had announced in the Panchayat's Sunday session that the motion was in the interest of the crown, the country, and the Panchayat system.

Earlier 59 members said they would support it, but apparently at the eleventh hour several withdrew, according to sources. About 32 supporters were present when the motion was delivered to Mr. Singh at the National Panchayat Secretariat.

Among the signatories are the former ministers of the government of Surya Bahadur Thapa, who was ousted just prior to Mr. Chand's election by the National Panchayat.

MP's Call for Control on Influx of Indians

BK201507 Hong Kong AFP in English 1449 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] Katmandu, Aug. 20 (AFP) — Members of the National Panchayat, or legislature, have called for a control on the influx of Indian citizens to Nepal and have also urged the government to check corruption and bribery in the issuance of Nepalese citizenship certificates.

A host of the 35 members, who participated in today's debate in the National Panchayat Finance Committee, warned the government that the migration could have serious consequences in the long run, pointing to the current ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka.

The members also demanded that the minister concerned pay attention to the complaints of the Nepalese legislators and ensure that the administration is made clean and efficient and that the people are treated justly.

Badri Prasad Mandal raised the question of citizenship, alleging that citizenship teams had committed irregularities while distributing temporary certificates to aliens who pose as Nepalese.

Another member, Damber Jung Gurung, voiced the need to give adequate salary and facilities to government employees as a deterrent to corruption.

Mohammad Iqbal Iraqi said, "On the one hand we are bearing the brunt of overpopulation, on the other there is the influx of foreigners (Indians)." He emphasized the need to increase police check posts along the Nepalese-Indian open border to check illegal entries. "The well-to-do citizens (Indians) get the citizenship certificates immediately after their entry into the Nepalese soil while the genuine poor Nepalese are denied the citizenship certificates," he said.

The National Panchayat members demanded that the Chand government immediately stop the issuance of Nepalese citizenship certificates "arbitrarily" and check the entry of Indian citizens into the country.

The National Panchayat members also observed that the Nepalese people do not want any "regional or communal conflict" such as that in Sri Lanka.

SRI LANKA

President Jayawardene Addresses Nation

BK221718 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 22 Aug 83

[President J.R. Jayawardene's address to the nation —live or recorded; place not given]

[Text] My dear friends, 3 weeks ago the people of Sri Lanka passed through experiences which, perhaps they rarely had in this country since independence. Hundreds of people lost their lives, thousands lost their jobs, houses were burnt, factories destroyed. These events applied equally to all citizens of Sri Lanka — Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims. Fortunately, it was confined only to certain areas of Sri Lanka, including [word indistinct].

I express my deepest sympathy for those who had suffered and we shall try our best to see what help we can afford them.

I am speaking to you today as a head of the state and head of the government elected by the people. I am not put in this position by arms, [word indistinct] or violence, but by the free votes of the people. My government, too, was elected by the people. We have a democratic government functioning in a democratic environment. [Words indistinct] then I should say this or something else.

I thought I shall speak from the lips of my (?poor) conscience, not to hurt anyone, not to please anyone, but to place before you certain facts and opinions which I hold.

There had been a growing tension between the Sinhalese and the Tamil people in the last 35 to 40 years. We need not now go into the history on this context. But when we came to power through elections in 1977, the United National Party in its manifesto outlined [word indistinct] intended to solve some of these problems. Since then, we have introduced legislation, imposing certain conditions, [words indisitnct] we would do. We have implemented them, may not be as fully as we wished to, but we are in the process of doing so. We have, therefore, taken (?those) steps we could legitimately do to implement the provisions of our manifesto. We intended at the round table conference, which we summoned just before these violent activities took place, to place before those who attended the conference our solutions and what we intended to do and also to obtain a consensus on the banning or making illegal the desire for a separate state. Unfortunately, we were unable to do so because, on the first occasion, many of the parties invited did not come and, on second occasion, the violence broke out. Instead, we were able to introduce in Parliament a resolution and a law to make a desire and a movement for a separate state illegal. For the first time in our history since a group of politicians decided to divide this country into two, we brought that legal action to meet such a step illegal and punishable.

I need not go into the details of that law. We also had a dialogue with the prime minister of India and, for the first time, the central government of India has specifically stated that they do not support a separation of our country, will not help in such a movement, and that they wholeheartedly stand for the unity, the integrity, and the independence of Sri Lanka.

It is when that comes to this stage of our dialogue with those who wanted a separate state, that the violence broke out. We have also decided that, in the future, we will not have any talks with any party that wants to advocate a separation of Sri Lanka. Therefore, for whose benefit was this violence created? [Words indistinct] I cannot think of any solution to the problems we face by violence. Some say that the violence was communal, some say it was political.

It is true there was a growing feeling, as I said, of tension and animosity between the Sinhalese and the Tamil people. That animosity was recreated and framed up for the purpose of the political activity and desires of those who [words indistinct].

You are aware that this government came into office on July 23d 1977. The elections were on July 21st, results were on July 22d and myself and the members of the Cabinet took the oaths on July 23d 1977. We had the presidential election last year. An (?earlier) prepoll decided through a referendum that general elections, which were due in August 1983, could not be held and they were postponed for 6 years. Since the result of the referendum, there had been various speeches and actions by members of certain political parties that they would not let this government function after August 1983. I draw your attention particularly to a statement made by Minister Vasudeva Nanayakkara, who was a candidate for one of the by-elections in May 1983, in the seat [words indistinct]. He had such quite specifically (?stated) that, if he was elected and used his powers as a member of Parliament for extra-parliamentary activity, joining hands with the terrorists of the north with the purpose of achieving his objects. [sentence as heard] He has further stated that he does not stand for democratic election but is prepared to join in what he calls [word indistinct] that is, [words indistinct] say a riot and a disturbance for a violent movement for the purpose of saying that elections were held in August 1983 and that this government does not function after that. It is obvious, therefore, from the statements of the Nava Lanka Nava Samasamaja Party leader Mr Vasudeva Nanayakkara that, from August 1983, they are preparing for some plots of violent disturbances.

We have the evidence that, soon after the referendum or during the referendum, a certain group which we call a Naxalite group was preparing [word indistinct] inflaming the people's minds, making them wild-minded against Ceylon and as a president [words indistinct] some action in case they were return to office to destroy the United National Party and others empowered democratically, including those [word indistinct] the Sri Lanka Freedom Party who are democratically minded. They also [word indistinct] of the Jatiya Vimukta Peremuna [JVP], the party, which in 1971, took to arms, fought the government of the day, tried to destroy it, took over 80 police stations and almost succeeded in bringing down the lawfully elected government.

I remember, as a leader of the opposition at that time in Parliament, I gave the full support of myself and my party to Mrs Bandaranaike to defeat an insurrection sought to overthrow a legally elected government. Therefore, JVP, also in a statement, made it clear after they lost the referendum, they did not even contest some of the by-elections and made it clear that they were giving up their parliamentary tactics in order to defeat a government which by a referendum extended its period by more than 6 years. If we, therefore, review certain political parties in this country, the Communist Party, the party of Vasudeva Nanayakkara of the Nava Lanka Sama Samaja Party, the party of Rohana Wijeweera, and the JVP are dedicated not to the democratic (?principles) but to violent means of forming a government and maintaining it by violence.

We have, on other hand, the United National Party and the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, which are democratic parties. During the elections that were held last year, out of 6,500,000 voters, 6 million voters were for the two democratic parties — United National Party and the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. It is therefore the parties that represent only 500,000 people who believe in violence as a way of attaining political power. We also find in the violence that took place on the 25th of July that there was a certain pattern of leadership. There were (?bands of groups) going about in vans, bicycles, motor bicycles, and cars inflaming their party colors in various towns and cities, and violence and arson took place after that. We found that, in Colombo, we found that all along the Colombo (Kantikawa) Road, we found in Kandy and (Badrun) and Bandara. That is much [words indistinct] of modern fury that planned and carefully nurtured and practiced over a period of time. We have found also that the murder of 13 of our soldiers in Jaffna took place on a significant date, the day being the 23d of July 1983. It was 6 years before, on the 23d of July 1977, that I myself and my government were sworn in

exactly on the date and also Saturday that we find this outburst beginning with the death of 13 soldiers in Jaffna. That was a signal for all uprisings that took place in certain parts of this country.

I would like, therefore, you to remember that perhaps JVP, which initiated the insurrection of 1971, who were released by me and I thought we should give them a chance for returning to a democratic system to contest elections. [sentence as heard] But having lost the presidential elections, having lost the referendum, having lost the by-election, they applied the only way to (?gain) power before the 6 years are over was by violence. Now these are being investigated by certain authorities and, when we received their report, further actions will be taken.

Our party does believe in democracy. For democracy to function, when the majority rule prevails and a Parliament functions after elections by the free will of the people, government and opposition are chosen, the laws are passed by the majority vote in Parliament, by discussions settle problems affecting communities of people, to settle by round table conference, by discussions and majority vote.

These methods are alien to the thinking of those who believe in violence. I may say so [word indistinct] some of the Marxist parties [word indistinct] without law and order being preserved, without the law being respected, without order being the guiding line for government for (?collective) democracy. These parties do not believe in democracy. These parties feel that, under a democratic system, the economic advance that we have undertaken, the economic steps we have taken to give jobs to our people to raise the standard of living of our people would attain such a height in the next 2 years that all chances of returning to office will be lost and finished. Therefore, my friends, this government's dedication, according to democratic way of life, is not only to economic development according to the plan that is outlined but also plans to maintain law and order, and in that our government is completely dedicated and resolved. But when people seek to disturb and disrupt law and order in this country the strictest tenets of the law will be enforced and, whichever punishment that has to be served out to them, our government is determined to do that, whether it is individual or party.

Thank you for listening to me and I hope by the cooperation of all those who believe in civilization, the civilized way of living, prevail, who believe that law and order, will prevail. The smallest, the poorest, and whatever race and caste he belongs are citizens of this country, entitled to live think and work within the framework of a democracy that we feel would have your best support in all efforts that this government is making to preserve [words indistinct] thank you.

Curfew Hours Set for Administrative Districts

BK221400 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The curfew has been extended to cover the administrative districts of Jaffna, Trincomalee, and Batticaloa from this evening until further notice. It will be imposed at 1900 and lifted at 0400 the following day. Although the curfew was continuing in all the districts in which disturbances had taken place between the 24th and 30th of July, the districts of Jaffna, Trincomalee, and Batticaloa were [words indistinct] excluded from this curfew order to facilitate the movement of displaced persons into these areas. With the completion of these movements, it has been considered desirable to reintroduce the curfew in these districts as a precautionary measure as in the case of other nine districts.

The curfew hours in the Colombo, Kalutara, Gampaha, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla, Kegalla, and Ratnapura Districts will also be from 1900 to 0400 the following day. It will remain as it is until Wednesday, the 24th. In the Kandy District, the curfew will be from midnight to 0400 the following day. On account of the (Bellangala) Esala Perahera [pageant], the curfew will be imposed in the (Bahegala), (Maltapenia), (Tahugala), (Puliengala), and (Mahalagama) police divisions at 2300.

Special Envoy To Apprise 8 Countries of Recent Events

BK191616 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] Mr H.W. Jayewardene, queen's counsel, who was the special envoy of the president to India, will leave today on a visit to a number countries in Asia. He will be calling on the heads of state and heads of government of Japan, South Korea, the People's Republic of China, the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, and Thailand.

The secretary to the Ministry of State, Douglas Liyanage, announced the visit at a news conference held in Colombo today. He said that Mr Jayewardene will visit the (? countries) as special envoy of the president of Sri Lanka to apprise the heads of these countries on recent events in Sri Lanka, especially emergency measures taken by the government to restore law and order and to (? ensure) relief to those affected by the violence. One particular reason for the visit, he said, was that Sri Lanka had friendly relations with all these countries and a visit by the special envoy of the president would be in accordance with our traditions of friendly consultations with Asian countries. The main objective of the visit is to keep them informed of the measures taken by government in this situation.

Minister Asseses Economic Losses From Disturbances

BK221229 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The report of the government-appointed task force that assessed the economic damage of the recent disturbances when many factories were attacked says that the losses do not run as high as first feared. The minister of finance and planning, Ronald de Mel, said that the task force made an assessment of the loss in terms of production, exports, and employment. It also assessed the extent of physical damage done to factories and the loss of working capital. After (?these) visits to the factories that were damaged and extensive interviews with their managers and owners, it has been found that 10 of the factories are immediately operational. According to the report which covered 116 affected industries within a 30-mile radius of Colombo, 19 would be operational within a month and 55 factories in about 6 months.

The report said that only 28 industrial units were fully damaged. Mr de Mel who convened the task force early this month, paid a warm tribute to officials of the Central Bank and the Ministries of Finance, Industries, Trade, Textiles, the CISIR,and the National Development Bank for providing a comprehensive report within 12 days. The minister said that the losses are heaviest in the textiles and garment sector and also considerable in the coconut oil industry and PVC pipe and fittings. There was also significant damage to the food and beverages industry.

The affected industries had 800 million rupees worth of export orders in hand. A total of approximately 15,000 employees have been affected. The minister said the task force has estimated the replacement value of machinery, plant, and equipment alone would be in the region of 1.75 billion rupees. The task force has recommended that those industries, which are immediately operational or could be reconstructed within about 6 months, should be revested and the previous owners informed. It has also recommended that priority consideration should be given by the government to seven factories where foreign capital is employed. The task force has proposed that the two state insurance corporations should cut red tape and set up a necessary organization to expedite insurance claims.

Tamil Leader's Letter to Jayewardene Reported

BK201425 Hong Kong AFP in English 1416 GMT 20 Aug 83

[Text] New Delhi, Aug. 20 (AFP) — Visiting Sri Lankan Tamil party leader A. Amirthalingam has written to President Junius Jayewardene charging that he had "forefeited the moral right to rule over the Tamils in the island," PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

The secretary-general of the separatist Tamil United Liberation Front, who is now in Madras, capital of southern Indian State of Tamil Nadu, told PTI that he had in his letter accused Mr. Jayewardene of "dividing the country effectively."

"Your hooligans are driving out Tamil people from their homes. Sinhalese students are driving out Tamil students from the universities. Sinhalese prisoners are killing Tamil prisoners. You are now driving us out of Parliament," he said in his letter, PTI added.

Mr. Amirthalingam came to India last week to explain to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and other leaders the "real situation" in Sri Lanka after an outburst of ethnic violence in late July, in which at least 371 people, mostly Tamils, were killed.

The Tamils in Sri Lanka, who originally migrated from India, constitute about 20 percent of the island republic's population of 14 million.

The TULF leader also told PTI that the 16 MP's of his party would not take take the oath disavowing separatism and were willing to forfeit their membership. He said: "We will not go to Parliament and we will not take oath."

Non-compliance with the provision under the sixth constitutional amendment of August 5 entails forfeiture of the seats, property and civic rights for seven years.

"We will attain a separate Tamil state sooner than later," he was quoted as saying.

According to PTI, he felt the presence of a United Nations peace-keeping force in Sri Lanka was a "necessity" as violence could reoccur any moment, and the Sri Lankan Army and police could not be depended upon to save the lives and property of Tamils.

Mr. Amirthalingam said the three Tamil ministers in the Sri Lanka cabinet should resign "on their own if they have even an ounce of self-respect." Of the three ministers, he said he had high regard for S. Thondaman, whom he had met twice before leaving for India. "I know where he stands. The other two are not concerned about the Tamils," the TULF leader told PTI. The other two ministers are Mr. Rajadurai and Mr. Devanayagam.

Sun: TULF Appears To Be Sharply Divided

BK201200 Colombo Sun in English 16 Aug 83 p 1

[By Ranil Weerasinghe]

[Text] The Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) appears to be sharply divided in respect of a statement attributed to its Secretary General A. Amirthalingam that his party is prepared to consider any "reasonable alternative" offered by the Sri Lanka Government to the demand for an independent Tamil state.

Prior to the TULF Annual convention in Mannar the opposition leader told *Sun* in an exclusive interview that his party was willing to place any "genuine alternative" before the Tamil people. He is said to have come under heavy fire from the hawks in the party regarding this statement.

Despite a denial issued in India by self-styled Sri Lanka watcher and MLA [member of Legislative Assembly], P. Nedumaran, the MP for Trincomalee, R. Sampanthan claimed that he was himself happy that Mr Amirthalingam had the courage under the circumstances to make such a statement.

The MP for Jaffna V. Yogeswaram who told *Sun* that Mr. Amirthalingam had the courage under the circumstances to make such a statement.

The MP for Jaffna V. Yogeswaram who told *Sun* that Mr. Amirthalingam had a 90 minute interview with Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi however claimed that Mr. Amirthalingam had received no mandate from the party to negotiate for a "reasonable solution."

Commenting on the statement made by party President M. Sivasithamparam, that the TULF General Council will take a decision on the path that the party should follow in the wake of ongoing developments Mr. Yogeswaram expressed his reservation in this regard.

"It was decided at the Mannar convention not to seek any further dialogue with the Government and although we are happy that Mrs Gandhi has agreed to mediate, any matters which come out of the second meeting with the Indian Prime Minister would necessarily have to be ratified by the convention" he claimed.

However, the fact that Mrs. Gandhi would play a role in any accord reached would be helpful towards ensuring its full implementation in contrast to earlier ones written on water, he said.

Meanwhile *Sun* learns that the terrorist group led by Uma Maheswaram now in South India had expressed its opposition to Mr. Amirthalingam representing the Lankan Tamil community.

Following the no-compromise stand by this group and the recent acts of violence in this group and the recent acts of violence in Jaffna there were indications that some of the terrorist groups were at each others throats.

Official Questions Omani Stance on Gulf Security

LD222315 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] Following the remarks of the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs concerning the necessity to confront the alleged threat from Iran in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi said in an interview:

First of all, one should note the motivation of the Omani officials in raising the issue of the alleged Iranian threats and in expressing concern for the security of the Strait of Hormuz on the eve of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council. The Muslim and aware nations of the region have not forgotten Oman's request from the countries in the Persian Gulf for a $2 billion grant to strengthen the so-called line of defense of the Strait of Hormuz, which is nothing but the safeguarding of American interests in the region.

He added: In view of the length of its shores as well as Iran's insistense on the true security and independence of the region, Iran attaches the greatest importance to the security of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz. Under no circumstances will it allow those whose fate has been joined with the fate of world arrogance, especially America, to strengthen America's military presence in the region under the pretext of the security of the Persian Gulf.

Fianlly, the deputy foreign minister said: Unfortunately, it should be said that the presence in the Gulf Cooperation Council of some countries such as Oman, despite its strong ties with America and the attempts it makes to expand these ties and to expand America's military presence in the Sea of Oman, as well as the remarks by officials of that country about the need to reorganize the Zionist regime, poses a big question mark over the aims of that council in the region.

Pilgrims to Mecca Warned on Currency, Narcotics

LD221224 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The following announcement was issued by the Islamic Revolution prosecutor general, addressed to the pilgrims:

This is to inform all brothers and sisters leaving for the house of God. In view of the fact that despite the plots hatched by global criminals and the regional reactionaries to prevent the visit to the house of God by Iranian pilgrims, preliminary arrangements for the departure of pilgrims to the two holy shrines have already been made, thanks to the blessing of God Almighty and the guidelines issued by the leader of the revolution, the great imam; and that, because of their antirevolutionary nature, the region's reactionary rulers are waiting and looking for an opportunity to deal a blow to the glorious Islamic Revolution and the revolutionary identity of the Iranian pilgrims and as to discredit the currency of the Islamic Republic system; and that, in certain cases, it has been noticed that some ignorant individuals tend to take Iranian currency with them or to carry narcotics — therefore, to prevent any antirevolutionary measures by the region's reactionaries or any instigators to cast aspersions on the character of the esteemed pilgrims or to discredit the Iranian pilgrims and currency, all brothers and sisters leaving for the house of God are instructed in view of a statement issued by the Central Bank, to be sure to avoid such acts.

Airport officials throughout the country are required to stop offenders from continuing their trip.

[Signed] Seyyed Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi, Islamic revolution prosecutor general

Liberian Leader's Visit to Israel Condemned

LD221741 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Text] The spokesman for our country's Foreign Ministry has said in connection with the trip by Sergeant Samuel Doe, head of the Liberian regime, to occupied Palestine: The honor of the oppressed people of Africa has this time been insulted by the head of the Liberian military regime, which came to power in 1980 through a military coup.

The spokesman added: Samuel Doe, who had for some time been talking about reestablishing relations with the regime occupying Jerusalem, finally brought the relations out into the open by sending a delegation to occupied Palestine last week. He then went to that country himself.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman added: The Islamic Republic of Iran condemns the trip by the head of the Liberian regime to occupied Palestine. It asks the progressive countries in Africa to condemn this shameful relationship, which will make the racist regime of South Africa bolder in its aggression, and to reconsider their relations with the Liberian military regime.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,435

LD221731 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Aug 83

[Communique No 1,435 issued by Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday in the operational fronts in Piranshah, fighting and exchange of fire continued between our powerful forces and the mercenaries of Saddam. By opening fire over enemy positions and units, our forces stopped the movement of the Iraqi forces. Our forces' fire stopped one motorized column of the mercenaries of Saddam moving in the Darband region. The enemy sustained losses and casualties.

In Marivan and Baneh border fronts, enemy positions in (Tutmal), Valiabad, Haftvan regions and (Shenam) heights came under the fire of the artillery and other heavy weapons of our fighters. With the destruction of a considerable number of their positions, a number of their vehicles and mortar launchers were greatly damaged. A number of their personnel were also killed or wounded.

In the Nowzad region, the heroic Gendarmerie forces, answering the fire from enemy positions and units, destroyed two slit trenches and two 50-caliber machinegun positions of the Iraqi forces with all their crew.

In the Bakhtaran border fronts, the exchange of sporadic fire continued. In the southern fronts, the powerful forces of Islam defended their positions and by fortifying their defensive positions and answering the fire from positions and fortifications of the forces of Saddam, inflicted losses and casualties upon them and silenced the fire of the Iraqi forces.

In the (Bayat) region, a number of Iraqi forces tried to penetrate the defensive positions of our fighters. However, the fighters of Islam killed more than 15 of the Iraqi soldiersand completely destroyed 5 of their personnel trenches.

During the exchange of fire in Abadan and Arvand Rud regions, the fighters of Islam responded to enemy fire, silencing their fire. They also destroyed two group trenches of the Iraqi forces and killed or wounded a number of their personnel.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meets With Education Officials

GF190532 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Excerpt] The minister for education, education officials from all over the country, members of the Air Force crusade of the Islamic Republic's Armed Forces [as heard], a group of workers and members of martyrs' families of the workers of Fars Province, members of the Islamic association of workers in Lorestan Province, and officials of the cultural committees of the reconstruction crusade from all over the country yesterday met Islamic Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

During this meeting, Hashemi-Rafsanjani spoke on the various aspects of the government's 5-year plan and elaborated on the progress of the Islamic Republic of Iran during the imposed war,which has been achieved by virtue of the strength of the workers and striving, dedicated people.

Radio Iran Views Power Struggle Among Mullahs

GF191102 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Excerpts] Compatriots: The Islamic Republic is tottering at the foundations and is being strangled. There is no further sign of hope and prosperity in the future of this political farce. The power struggle in the administrative machinery is a glaring example of its corruption, sectarianism, splintering, and collusion in this morass of degradation and shamelessness.

The Friday imam of Borazjan, Mullah Rahimi, is colluding with another clergyman named Hoseyni against Kazeruni, chief of the city Komiteh and his armed cohorts over the appropriation of booty. This triggered an incident in this calm city which is usually only seen in crime and Mafia films. The chief of Komiteh and his gansters barged into the house of some supporters of the Friday imam and took 80 of them prisoners [word indistinct] in this prison of the Komiteh.

In Bushehr Province, officials cannot look each other in the eye. No day passes without some sort of clash between the Friday imams and the executive officials. In Genaveh,the people look at these (?officeholders) with utter contempt and loathing as they see them sharpening their talons against one another and spitting at each other in public. The Genaveh imam does not want to be the Friday imam but the imam of the whole week.

In Esfahan, the wrestler, Seyyed Jalal Taheri, the so-called Esfahan Friday imam, engaged in a test of strength with a clergyman named Khatami and was defeated in a manner that all the spectators of the city thoroughly enjoyed! This political wrestling did not end here but its dimensions spread in a way that a group of Guards expelled Mahmudpur, also known as Mahmud Zamen, one of the most influential agents of Seyyed Jalal Taheri and purged 50 hezbollahis of Seyyed Taheri from government posts.

In Zanjan, things are even worse: the government clergymen have become so wretched that no one even bothers to mention them, no one even melts butter for them [Persian idiom]. Some days ago, the Friday prayers of this city were held with only 12 people attending, that is, the enemy-destroying Friday prayers was held only with the Friday imam and his 12 acolytes. The Islamic Republic decided to stop the holding of Friday prayers in the city from that day so that no more dirty linen would be washed in public!

Free Voice of Iran on Guardmen Defecting to Kurds

GF190540 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Text] Following the fleeing of the guardmen and mercenaries of the Khomeyni regime from the warfronts in Kurdish areas, two men from the Armed Forces of the Khomeyni regime fled yesterday from the Khomeyni hell and surrendered themselves to the (Rastgari) force in Kordestan. The correspondent of the Free Voice of Iran in his report on this issue said that 'Atiq Rahimi and Yasin Rahimi, two revolutionary guards of the regime, after they realized the uselessness of their attacks on the Kurd bretheren, joined the (Rastgari) force. Two other residents of (Keymani), Khalil and Mokhtar 'Abbasi, introduced themselves to the (Rashgari) force and joined this corps.

According to a report by the Free Voice of Iran, a severe clash occurred last week between the peshmerga corps of (Rastgari) and the revolution guards on the shores of Komachal and (Zhilak-e Ponel). In this clash, nine revolution guards and Khomeyni mercenaries were killed along with one peshmerga of the (Rastgari) force. An officer of the revolution guards in the area who had gone to inspect the (Zhilak-e Ponel) was kidnapped.

According to this report a Khomeyni mercenary named Majid Nomini and four revolution guards were killed in another clash.

During the attack by the (Rastgari) Corps Kurds, the headquarters of the revolution guards in (Zhilak-e Ponel) was set ablaze.

Reports received from Kordestan state that brave Kurdish men of the (Rastgari) Corps in their guerrilla attacks have inflicted heavy losses on the revolution guards stationed in the area. The Khomeyni regime, to revenge these attacks, has exiled 150 residents of Purgan to distant places. These people are fathers, mothers, wives, and children of those who are in the (Rastgari) Corps and are fighting against the revolution guards of the Khomeyni regime.

Shiraz Gendamerie Issues Draft Call for 22 August

GF191200 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 18 Aug 83

[Summary from poor reception] The Shiraz Gendarmerie has announced that those with degrees of bachelor of art and master of arts who had registered for military service in the Shiraz district should report on 22 August at Vali-'asr Garrison in Tehran. They will be sent for military service after drawing lots.

AFP: 'Orly Group' Pledges To Continue Attacks

NC191036 Paris AFP in English 1024 GMT 19 Aug 83

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 19 (AFP) — A time bomb placed under a French Embassy car last night was claimed by the "Orly" militant Armenian group today, in an anonymous call to the AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE bureau here.

The caller, speaking in Persian, used a password previously used by the Orly group and said that the attacks would continue "throughout the world and particularly in France, from now on."

"We warn that responsibility for the deaths and injuries from our present and future operations lies with the French Government," the caller said, claiming that Orly "revolutionaries" could easily have killed the regional director of Air France, Jean-Claude Elhuyar, in a claimed attack on Wednesday.

The caller said the bomb had been placed "some time ago."

After an August 10 bomb attack on the French Embassy, the Orly group claimed that several had been placed in the embassy compound. Iranian bomb experts did not find anything.